

**Librarian's Report  
Freedom Public Library  
August 21, 2009**

Another great summer at the Freedom Public Library has drawn to a close. The finale party on Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> was attended by approximately 50 children and 25 adults. Bobby Sue's generously donated ice cream and toppings for make-your-own sundaes. Dance New England's summer dance camp took place at Camp Robin Hood this year and I hired a musician/entertainer attending the camp for \$100. He played the accordion and made balloon animals and had a bunch of rhythm instruments for people to try. Many thanks to Irene and Ellen who jumped in and helped during the party, scooping ice cream and helping with the raffle. It was a nice end to a great summer.

50 kids, 17 teens and 60 adults actively participated in the summer reading program. Please see attached sheet for summer programming participation information. Reptiles on the Move was a huge hit and people are still talking about it. I will plan another program with animals for next summer as well. The only program that didn't work was preschool storytime. Saturday mornings were apparently not convenient. If I can find someone else to do the writing workshop next year, I will move storytime to Wednesday mornings and have those programs run concurrently, or perhaps not have storytime during the summer.

Old Home Week activities and Friends fundraisers were extremely successful. The book and bake sale seemed to go very smoothly and the "by donation" pricing worked well. The book and bake sale raised over \$2700 for the Friends. The raffle of the Herb Burroughs light box raised \$209. Congrats and much gratitude to Ellen and Anne and their committees!

Jim Scully's death at the end of July was a big loss for everyone who knew Jim. Donations in his memory continue to pour into the library: as of today, a total of \$725. I'd like to discuss with the trustees and Peg how memorial donations are handled and what we might like to use this money for.

Charlie Hatfield took down the dead and dangerous branches in the oak tree in front of the library. He says we should have an arborist come to look at the tree because he saw some rot inside the supposedly healthy branches he took down. I suggest that the trustees write a letter of thanks to Charlie for the work he did.

I have asked Bill to discuss with Peter how much it would cost to cut out the cabinet below where we put the laptop at the circulation desk. Bill seemed to think it would not be too big of a job. If the cabinet were removed below, a person working at the laptop would be able to scoot under the counter, allowing more comfort and providing a wider passageway behind them.

Maureen Elliott wants to become a library volunteer. She and her husband Bill have just sold their house away and are now fulltime residents of Freedom. I will be training Maureen in September. Nancy Griffin has expressed an interest in teaching another computer class this fall. I know this will be very popular.

The library volunteers worked very hard this summer! There were many jobs to do beyond the usual circulation shifts, and so many stepped up to the plate to help. Judy deserves a medal for all her hard work and patience and will definitely deserve some time off after this busy summer. I will be taking off the week of August 30 – September 7<sup>th</sup>, spending time at the Cape and attending a family wedding.

I am looking forward to wrapping up all the loose ends from the summer and getting the library tidied up and ready for a busy fall.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer  
Library Director